Having thus described the preferred embodiments, the invention is now claimed to be:

1. A method of deactivating biological or chemical agents in a large volume space with a convoluted configuration, the method comprising:

isolating the space;

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introducing a deactivation gas into a plurality of subregions of the isolated space, which subregions are physically interconnected;

circulating the deactivation gas within each subregion and from subregion to adjoining subregions; and,

continuing to introduce and circulate the deactivation gas until any biological or chemical agents in the space are deactivated.

The method according to claim 1, further including:
 exhausting air, spent deactivation gas, and deactivation gas from the
space; and,

trapping any entrained biological or chemical agent in the exhausted air, spent deactivation gas, and deactivation gas.

3. The method according to claim 2 further including:

sensing a concentration of the deactivation gas at a plurality of points around the isolated space; and,

controlling the introduction and circulation of the deactivation gas and the exhausting such that the deactivation gas concentration throughout the space is maintained above a preselected minimum concentration and below a preselected maximum concentration.

4. The method according to claim 3 further including: sensing temperature at a plurality of locations around the space; and, wherein the preselected maximum concentration is a saturation or condensation concentration at the sensed temperature. WO 2005/094909 PCT/US2005/009653

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- 5. The method according to claim 3 wherein controlling the introduction and circulation of the deactivation agent includes flow dynamics modeling.
- 6. The method according to claim 3 wherein the sensing includes: altering a resonance frequency, a capacitance, or other electrical property of a sensing element with the deactivation gas.
- 7. The method according to claim 1 wherein the deactivation gas includes hydrogen peroxide vapor.
- 8. The method according to claim 1 wherein introducing the deactivation gas includes:

vaporizing a liquid deactivation concentrate to generate the deactivation gas.

9. The method according to claim 8 wherein the vaporizing step is performed one of:

within HVAC systems for heating and cooling the space; at a plurality of generators built into the space; at portable generators movably placed within the space.

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10. The method according to claim 2 further including:

before introducing the deactivation gas, exhausting to bring the space at a negative pressure.

11. An apparatus for deactivating biological or chemical agents in a large volume space with a convoluted configuration, the apparatus comprising:

means for introducing a deactivation gas into a plurality of subregions of the space, which subregions are physically interconnected;

means for circulating the deactivation gas within each subregion and from subregion to adjoining subregions; and,

means for controlling introduction and circulation of the deactivation gas until biological or chemical agents in the space are deactivated.

12. The apparatus according to claim 11 further including:
a multiplicity of sensors for sensing a concentration of the deactivation
gas at a plurality of points around the space; and,

wherein the controlling means controls the introduction and circulation of the deactivation gas such that its concentration throughout the space is maintained above a preselected minimum concentration and below a preselected maximum concentration.

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13. The apparatus as set forth in claim 12 further including:

means for sensing temperature at a plurality of locations around the space; and,

wherein the preselected maximum concentration is a saturation or condensation concentration at the sensed temperature.

- 14. The apparatus as set forth in claim 12 wherein the means for controlling the introduction and circulation of the deactivation agent includes means for flow dynamics modeling.
- 15. The apparatus according to claim 12 wherein the deactivation gas includes hydrogen peroxide vapor.
- 16. The apparatus according to claim 12 wherein the means for introducing the deactivation gas includes:

a vaporizer for vaporizing a liquid deactivation concentrate to generate the deactivation gas.

17. The apparatus according to claim 6 wherein the vaporizer is disposed one of:

within HVAC systems for heating and cooling the space; built into the space;

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5 portable generators movably placed within the space.

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- 18. The apparatus according to claim 12 further including:
 means for exhausting air, spent deactivation gas, and deactivation gas
 from the space; and
- a trap which traps any entrained biological or chemical agent in the exhausted air, spent deactivation gas, and deactivation gas.
 - 19. The apparatus according to claim 18 further including:
 a plurality of exhaust fans for exhausting the air, spent deactivation
 gas, and deactivation gas at a plurality of locations within the isolated space; and
 the control means further controlling exhaust fans to control flow of
 the deactivation gas along and around the space.
 - 20. The apparatus according to claim 18 further including: automatic door closers and doors for isolating the space from the environment before introducing the deactivation gas.
 - 21. The apparatus according to claim 11 wherein the space is an elongated space and includes multiple interconnected floors with a free flow of air between floors.
 - 22. The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the space includes an airport concourse.
 - 23. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the space includes a wing of a building including corridors, individual offices or rooms, cubicles, or laboratories.
 - 24. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the air circulating means includes:

a plurality of fans; and,

wherein the control means controls a speed and orientation of at least some of the fans.

- 25. The apparatus as set forth in claim 12, wherein each of the sensors includes:
- an electrical element whose electrical properties are altered in accordance with at least concentration of the deactivation gas.
- 26. The apparatus according to claim 25 wherein the sensor includes:
- a piezoelectric resonator having a characteristic resonance frequency; and,
- a coating on at least one surface of the resonator which coating interacts with the deactivation gas and changes the resonance frequency of the resonator in accordance with a concentration of the deactivation gas.
 - 27. The apparatus according to claim 25 wherein the sensor includes:
 - a pair of capacitive plates between which deactivation gas is passed such that a dielectric constant of the space between the dielectric plates varies in accordance with a concentration of the deactivation gas.

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- 28. The apparatus according to claim 25 wherein the sensor includes:
- a resonator whose resonance frequency changes in accordance with a concentration of the deactivation gas.
- 29. The apparatus according to claim 18 wherein the control means includes a computer which includes:
 - a routine for monitoring each of the sensors;
- a process control routine which controls the deactivation gas 5 generators, the exhaust fans, and the circulation means in accordance with the sensed deactivation gas concentrations.

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30. The apparatus according to claim 29 wherein the computer processor further includes:

a routine for automatically closing all portals into the space to seal the space from the surrounding environment.

31. A computer control system for controlling deactivation of biological and chemical agents in a large volume space with a convoluted configuration, the computer control system including a processor which is programmed with:

an algorithm for controlling isolation of the space;

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a routine or algorithm for controlling introduction of a deactivation gas into a plurality of subregions of the isolated space, which subregions are physically connected;

a means for controlling circulation of the deactivation gas within each subregion and from subregion to adjoining subregions;

a means for monitoring a multiplicity of concentration sensors; and a means for controlling at least one exhaust fan.